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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/067,580	02/04/2002	Felix G.T.I. Andrew	13768.241	5848

47973 7590 04/05/2005

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EXAMINER

BATURAY, ALICIA

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

2155

DATE MAILED: 04/05/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/067,580

Applicant(s)

ANDREW ET AL.

Examiner

Alicia Baturay

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 31 August 2004.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-44 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-44 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☒ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 27 November 2002 is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☒ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 03212005.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

1. Claims 1-44 are pending.

Specification

2. The disclosure is objected to because of the following informalities: on page 5, paragraph 9, Applicant recites "However, if the identifier is representative of an Internet location, characteristics may be selected to enable a computer system to utilize a VPN connection *tothe* corporate intranet." It is suggested that Applicant place a space between "to" and "the." Appropriate correction is required.
3. The drawings are objected to as failing to comply with 37 CFR 1.84(p)(4) because reference character "112" has been used to designate both buttons and memory, see page 11, paragraphs 26 and 27. Corrected drawing sheets in compliance with 37 CFR 1.121(d) are required in reply to the Office action to avoid abandonment of the application. Any amended replacement drawing sheet should include all of the figures appearing on the immediate prior version of the sheet, even if only one figure is being amended. Each drawing sheet submitted after the filing date of an application must be labeled in the top margin as either "Replacement Sheet" or "New Sheet" pursuant to 37 CFR 1.121(d). If the changes are not accepted by the examiner, the applicant will be notified and informed of any required corrective action in the next Office action. The objection to the drawings will not be held in abeyance.

Claim Objections

4. Claims 1-44 are objected to because the use of the term “infrastructure” is unclear.

Clarification and/or correction are required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

5. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

6. Claims 1-4, 8-13, 16, 17, 19-24, 26, 27, 29-33, 35-38, and 40-44 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Freund et al. (U.S. 2003/0167405).

7. With respect to claim 1, Freund discloses a computer system that is connectable to a number of infrastructures, each infrastructure being associated with one or more parameters, a method for selecting characteristics associated with the environment the computer system is connected to, so as to reduce the configuration information that is manually entered, comprising the following: an act of connecting the computer system to an infrastructure from among the number of infrastructures (Freund, page 6, paragraph 73); an act of receiving one or more parameters associated with the computer system that were provided by the infrastructure (Freund, page 7, paragraphs 87-91); an act of combining the one or more parameters to generate an identifier (Freund, page 23, paragraph 133); and an act of, based on

the identifier, selecting characteristics associated with the infrastructure the computer system is connected to (Freund, page 6, paragraph 74).

8. With respect to claim 2, Freund discloses the invention substantially as described in claim 1, including the method where the act of connecting the computer system to an infrastructure from among the number of infrastructures comprises the following: act of connecting a mobile computer system to an infrastructure from among the number of infrastructures (Freund, page 6, paragraph 73).
9. With respect to claim 3, Freund discloses the invention substantially as described in claim 1, including the method where the act of connecting the computer system to an infrastructure from among the number of infrastructures comprises the following: an act of connecting the computer system to a network infrastructure from among a number of network infrastructures (Freund, page 6, paragraph 73).
10. With respect to claim 4, Freund discloses the invention substantially as described in claim 3, including the method where the act of connecting the computer system to a network infrastructure from among a number of network infrastructures comprises the following: an act of connecting the computer system to a network infrastructure from among a number of network infrastructures that are each associated with different operating environments (Freund, page 6, paragraph 73).

11. With respect to claim 8, Freund discloses the invention substantially as described in claim 1, including the method where the act of receiving one or more parameters associated with the computer system that were provided by the infrastructure comprises the following: an act of receiving one or more parameters associated with the computer system that were provided by a network infrastructure (Freund, page 7, paragraphs 87-91).
12. With respect to claim 9, Freund discloses the invention substantially as described in claim 8, including the method where act of receiving one or more parameters associated with the computer system that were provided by a network infrastructure comprises the following: an act of receiving one or more parameters associated with communication techniques utilized by the network infrastructure (Freund, page 7, paragraphs 87-91).
13. With respect to claim 10, Freund discloses the invention substantially as described in claim 9, including the method where the act of receiving one or more parameters associated with communication techniques utilized by the network infrastructure comprises the following: an act of receiving a network address that was provided by the network infrastructure (Freund, page 7, paragraphs 83-86).
14. With respect to claim 11, Freund discloses the invention substantially as described in claim 9, including the method where the act of receiving one or more parameters associated with communication techniques utilized by the network infrastructure comprises the following: an

act of receiving a subnet mask that was provided by the network infrastructure (Freund, page 7, paragraph 86).

15. With respect to claim 12, Freund discloses the invention substantially as described in claim 9, including the method where the act of receiving one or more parameters associated with communication techniques utilized by the network infrastructure comprises the following: an act of receiving one or more parameters indicative of the network infrastructure utilizing a proxy (Freund, page 7, paragraph 90).
16. With respect to claim 13, Freund discloses the invention substantially as described in claim 9, including the method where the network infrastructure utilizes a virtual private network (Freund, page 7, paragraph 84).
17. With respect to claim 16, Freund discloses the invention substantially as described in claim 1, including the method where the act of receiving one or more parameters associated with the computer system that were provided by the infrastructure comprises the following: an act of receiving one or more parameters associated with the computer system that were provided by a first infrastructure and will be used to select characteristics associated with a second infrastructure (Freund, page 7, paragraph 95).
18. With respect to claim 17, Freund discloses the invention substantially as described in claim 1, including the method where the act of receiving one or more parameters associated with the computer system that were provided by the infrastructure comprises the following: an act of

receiving one or more parameters associated with the computer system that were provided by the computer system (Freund, page 7, paragraph 95).

19. With respect to claim 19, Freund discloses the invention substantially as described in claim 1, including the method where the act of combining the one or more parameters to generate an identifier comprises the following: an act of combining the one or more parameters that where provided by a network infrastructure to generate an identifier (Freund, page 23, paragraph 133).

20. With respect to claim 20, Freund discloses the invention substantially as described in claim 19, including the method where the act of combining the one or more parameters that where provided by a network infrastructure to generate an identifier comprises the following: an act of combining one or more parameters associated with communication techniques that are utilized by the infrastructure (Freund, page 23, paragraph 133).

21. With respect to claim 21, Freund discloses the invention substantially as described in claim 20, including the method where the act of combining the one or more parameters associated with communication techniques that are utilized by the infrastructure comprises the following: an act of performing a logical AND operation on a network address and a subnet mask to generate a subnet address that is representative of a network location (Freund, page 23, paragraph 133 and following table).

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22. With respect to claim 22, Freund discloses the invention substantially as described in claim 1, including the method where the act of, based on the identifier, selecting characteristics associated with the infrastructure the computer system is connected to comprises the following: an act of selecting characteristics associated with the infrastructure the computer system is connected to that cause the computer system to utilize a proxy (Freund, page 6, paragraph 74).

23. With respect to claim 23, Freund discloses the invention substantially as described in claim 1, including the method where the act of, based on the identifier, selecting characteristics associated with the infrastructure the computer system is connected to comprises the following: an act of selecting characteristics associated with the infrastructure the computer system is connected to that cause the computer system to utilize a virtual private network (Freund, page 7, paragraphs 83-84).

24. With respect to claim 24, Freund discloses the invention substantially as described in claim 1, including the method where the act of, based on the identifier, selecting characteristics associated with the infrastructure the computer system is connected to comprises the following: an act of selecting characteristics associated with a network location the computer system connected to (Freund, page 6, paragraph 74).

25. With respect to claim 26, Freund discloses the invention substantially as described in claim 1, including the method where the act of, based on the identifier, selecting characteristics associated with the infrastructure the computer system is connected to comprises the

following: an act of selecting characteristics associated with the infrastructure from a system registry (Freund, page 6, paragraphs 68-69). The Microsoft Computer Dictionary defines registry as “a central hierarchical database in Windows 9x, Windows CE, Windows NT, and Windows 2000 used to store information necessary to configure the system for one or more users, applications, and hardware devices.” It is inherent that the operating systems discussed in Freund, specifically Windows 9x, Windows NT, and Windows 2000, include a registry and use it to store and retrieve characteristics about the infrastructure.

26. With respect to claim 27, Freund discloses the invention substantially as described in claim 1, including the method where the act of, based on the identifier, selecting characteristics associated with the infrastructure the computer system is connected to comprises the following: an act of selecting characteristics associated with the infrastructure by utilizing information that was manually entered by a user (Freund, page 5, paragraph 63).

27. With respect to claim 29, Freund discloses the invention substantially as described in claim 1, including the method further comprising: an act of utilizing the selected characteristics to modify the configuration of the computer system (Freund, page 7, paragraph 95).

28. With respect to claim 30, Freund discloses the invention substantially as described in claim 29, including the method where the act of utilizing the selected characteristics to modify the configuration of the computer system comprises the following: an act of utilizing the selected

characteristics to modify the configuration of the computer system to operate in the environment (Freund, page 7, paragraph 95).

29. With respect to claim 31, Freund discloses the invention substantially as described in claim 30, including the method where the act of utilizing the selected characteristics to modify the configuration of the computer system to operate in the environment comprises the following: an act of utilizing the selected characteristics to modify the configuration of the computer system to operate on a computer network (Freund, page 7, paragraph 95).

30. With respect to claim 32, Freund discloses a computer system that is connectable to a number of infrastructures, each infrastructure being associated with one or more parameters, a method for selecting characteristics associated with the environment the computer system is connected to, so as to reduce the configuration information that is manually entered, comprising the following: a step for accessing one or more parameters associated with a computer system so as to provide parameters for properly configuring the computer system to operate in an infrastructure (Freund, page 7, paragraphs 87-91); an act of combining the one or more parameters to generate an identifier (Freund, page 23, paragraph 133); and an act of, based on the identifier, selecting characteristics associated with the infrastructure the computer system is connected to (Freund, page 6, paragraph 74).

31. With respect to claim 33, Freund discloses the invention substantially as described in claim 32, including the method where the step for accessing one or more parameters associated

with a computer system comprises the following: an act of accessing one or more parameters from a computer network (Freund, page 7, paragraphs 87-91).

32. With respect to claim 35, Freund discloses the invention substantially as described in claim 32, including the method where the step for accessing one or more parameters associated with a computer system comprises the following: an act of accessing one or more parameters from a system registry (Freund, page 6, paragraphs 68-69). The Microsoft Computer Dictionary defines registry as “a central hierarchical database in Windows 9x, Windows CE, Windows NT, and Windows 2000 used to store information necessary to configure the system for one or more users, applications, and hardware devices.” It is inherent that the operating systems discussed in Freund, specifically Windows 9x, Windows NT, and Windows 2000, include a registry and use it to store and retrieve characteristics about the infrastructure.

33. With respect to claim 36, Freund discloses the invention substantially as described in claim 32, including the method where the step for accessing one or more parameters associated with a computer system comprises the following: an act of accessing one or more parameters provided modules included in the computer system that may be utilized by the computer system to change the configuration of the computer system (Freund, page 7, paragraph 95).

34. With respect to claim 37, Freund discloses a computer system that is connectable to a number of infrastructures, each infrastructure being associated with one or more parameters, a

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method for selecting characteristics associated with the environment the computer system is connected to, so as to reduce the configuration information that is manually entered, comprising the following comprising: an act of connecting the computer system to an infrastructure from among the number of infrastructures (Freund, page 6, paragraph 73); an act of receiving one or more parameters associated with the computer system that were provided by the infrastructure (Freund, page 7, paragraphs 87-91); and a step for changing the configuration of the computer system based on the one or more parameters so as to enable to computer system to operate in the infrastructure associated with the provided parameters (Freund, page 6, paragraph 75).

35. With respect to claim 38, Freund discloses the invention substantially as described in claim 37, including the method where the step for changing the configuration of the computer system based on the one or more parameters comprises the following: an act of configuring the computer system to operate with a computer network (Freund, page 7, paragraphs 87-91).
36. With respect to claim 40, Freund discloses the invention substantially as described in claim 37, including the method where the step for changing the configuration of the computer system based on the one or more parameters comprises the following: an act of configuring the computer system to operate with the computer system (Freund, page 7, paragraph 95).
37. With respect to claim 41, Freund discloses the invention substantially as described in claim 37, including the method where the step for changing the configuration of the computer

system based on the one or more parameters comprises the following: an act of configuring the computer system based on one parameter (Freund, page 25, claim 17).

38. With respect to claim 42, Freund discloses a computer program product for use in a computer system that is connectable to a number of infrastructures, each infrastructure being associated with one or more parameters, the computer program product for implementing a method for selecting characteristics associated with the environment the computer system is connected to, so as to reduce the configuration information that is manually entered, the computer program product comprising: one or more computer-readable media carrying computer-executable instructions, that when executed at the computer system, cause the computer system to perform the method, including: connecting the computer system to an infrastructure from among the number of infrastructures (Freund, page 6, paragraph 73); receiving one or more parameters associated with the computer system that were provided by the infrastructure (Freund, page 7, paragraphs 87-91); combining the one or more parameters to generate an identifier (Freund, page 23, paragraph 133); and selecting characteristics associated with the infrastructure the computer system is connected to (Freund, page 6, paragraph 74).

39. With respect to claim 43, Freund discloses the invention substantially as described in claim 42, including the computer program product where the one or more computer-readable media are physical storage media (Freund, page 6, paragraph 68).

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40. With respect to claim 44, Freund discloses the invention substantially as described in claim 42, including the computer program product where the one or more computer-readable media include system memory (Freund, page 6, paragraph 68).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

41. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

42. Claims 5-7, 14, 15, 18, 25, 28, 34, and 39 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Freund and further in view of Lipe et al. (U.S. 5,748,980).

43. With respect to claim 5, Freund discloses the method where the act of connecting the computer system to an infrastructure from among the number of infrastructures (Freund, page 6, paragraph 73). But Freund does not expressly disclose the use of a docking station. However, Lipe does teach an act of connecting the computer system to a docking station infrastructure from among a number of docking station infrastructures (Lipe, col. 32, lines 23-31). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Freund with Lipe in order to facilitate seamless dynamic configuration changes in a computer with minimum user involvement (Lipe, col. 3, lines 32-44).

44. With respect to claim 6, the combination of Freund and Lipe (Freund-Lipe) discloses the invention substantially including the method where the act of connecting the computer system to a docking station infrastructure from among a number of docking station infrastructures comprises the following: act of connecting the computer system to a docking station infrastructure from among a number of docking station infrastructures that are each associated with different operating environments (Lipe, col. 32, lines 23-31).

45. With respect to claim 7, Freund-Lipe discloses the invention substantially as described in claim 1, including the method where the act of connecting the computer system to an infrastructure from among the number of infrastructures comprises the following: connecting the computer system to a combined infrastructure (Lipe, col. 394, line 65 – col. 395, line 13). Use of both parameters present in the registry and from the network shows use of a combined system.

46. With respect to claim 14, Freund-Lipe discloses the invention substantially as described in claim 9, including the method where the act of receiving one or more parameters associated with the computer system that were provided by the infrastructure comprises the following: an act of receiving one or more parameters associated with the computer system that were provided by a docking station infrastructure (Lipe, col. 32, lines 23-31).

47. With respect to claim 15, Freund-Lipe discloses the invention substantially as described in claim 14, including the method where the act of receiving one or more parameters associated

with the computer system that were provided by a docking station infrastructure comprises the following: an act of receiving one or more parameters associated with peripherals that are attached to the docking station infrastructure (Lipe, col. 32, lines 23-31).

48. With respect to claim 18, Freund-Lipe discloses the invention substantially as described in claim 1, including the method where the act of receiving one or more parameters associated with the computer system that were provided by the infrastructure comprises the following: an act of receiving one or more parameters from a combined infrastructure (Lipe, col. 394, line 65 – col. 395, line 13). Use of both parameters present in the registry and from the network shows use of a combined system.

49. With respect to claim 25, Freund-Lipe discloses the invention substantially as described in claim 1, including the method where the act of, based on the identifier, selecting characteristics associated with the infrastructure the computer system is connected to comprises the following: an act of selecting characteristics associated with a docking station the computer system connected to (Lipe, col. 32, lines 23-31).

50. With respect to claim 28, Freund-Lipe discloses the invention substantially as described in claim 1, including the method where the act of, based on the identifier, selecting characteristics associated with the infrastructure the computer system is connected to comprises the following: an act of, based on the identifier, selecting characteristics associated with a combined infrastructure the computer system is connected to (Lipe, col. 394, line 65 –

col. 395, line 13). Use of both parameters present in the registry and from the network shows use of a combined system.

51. With respect to claim 34, Freund-Lipe discloses the invention substantially as described in claim 32, including the method where the step for accessing one or more parameters associated with a computer system comprises the following: an act of accessing one or more parameters from a docking station (Lipe, col. 32, lines 23-31).

52. With respect to claim 39, Freund-Lipe discloses the invention substantially as described in claim 37, including the method where the step for changing the configuration of the computer system based on the one or more parameters comprises the following: an act of configuring the computer system to operate with a docking station (Lipe, col. 32, lines 23-31).


Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Alicia Baturay whose telephone number is (571) 272-3981. The examiner can normally be reached at 7:30am - 5pm, Monday - Thursday, and every other Friday.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Hosain Alam can be reached on (571) 272-3978. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (703) 872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Alicia Baturay
March 30, 2005


HOSAIN ALAM
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER